

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 15806 281250Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0203

S E C R E T ROME 15806

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH ANDREOTTI

REF: ROME 15248, ROME 15773

1. IN THE COURSE OF A BRIEF MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI (REPORTED SEPT-EL) I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE OUR CONCERN THAT ON LUIGI GRANELLI, FORMER UNDERSECRETARY AT THE MFA, MIGHT BE CHARGED TO HEAD UP THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION FOR THE DC (SEE REFT-EL ROME 15248, 15773). IN LIGHT OF GRANELLI'S RECENT STATEMENTS THAT ITALY'S FOREIGN POLICY SHOULD BE QUOTE EQUI-DISTANT UNQUOTE FROM THE U.S. AND THE U.S.S.R., I TOLD ANDREOTTI THAT WASHINGTON WOULD CONSIDER GRANELLI'S APPOINTMENT TO THIS FOREIGN AFFAIRS POST AS A PROVACATIVE CHANGE IN THE DC'S FOREIGN POLICY OUTLOOK. HE QUICKLY VOLUNTEERED THAT HE FULLY AGREED WITH ME AND THAT WE NEED NOT BE CONCERNED SINCE HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO ASSURE THAT GRANELLI WOULD NOT OBTAIN THIS POST. HE INDICATED THAT GRANELLI PROBABLY WOULD HANDLE MATTERS OF IMMIGRATION WITHIN THE FOREIGN POLICY SECTION BUT THAT HE WOULD NOT HEAD THE SECTION.

2. ANDREOTTI GAVE ME FURTHER BACKGROUND ON GRANELLI INDICATING THAT HIS WIFE IS UNQUESTIONABLY A COMMUNIST AND THAT SHE GREATLY INFLUENCES GRANELLI'S THINKING ON THESE MATTERS.
VOLPE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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